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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Masahiro Okada et al.
Confirmation No: 9209
Serial No. : 10/000,427
Filed : November 30, 2001
TC/A.U. : 2131
Examiner :

Docket No. : 01-730
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

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Technology Center 2100

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with Applicant's continued duty of disclosure, the following documents are brought to the Examiner's attention:

- (1) Patent Abstracts of Japan Publication No. 2000-207199;
- (2) Patent Abstracts of Japan Publication No. 11-085500;
- (3) Patent Abstracts of Japan Publication No. 2000-276350;
- (4) Patent Abstracts of Japan Publication No. 08-016384;

A listing on Form PTO-1449 is enclosed along with a copy of the non-U.S. documents.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to the

present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

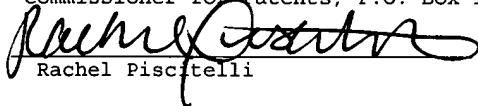
Respectfully submitted,

By _____

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Date: April 20, 2005

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
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Rachel Piscitelli

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

APR 22 2005

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

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Complete if Known

Application Number	10/000,427
Filing Date	November 30, 2001
First Named Inventor	Masahiro Okada et al.
Art Unit	2131
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	01-730

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 2000-207199	07-28-2000	Hiromichi		
		JP 11-085500	03-30-1999	Takanori		
		JP 2000-276350	06-10-2000	Yoshihiro		
		JP 08-016384	01-19-1996	Mitsuko et al.		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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